

KRM:VTL
61-7398 -132

September 26, 1936.

RECORDED

Mrs. Ethel Abell,
1508 West Ohio Street,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Madam:

Acknowledging receipt of your letter dated September 17, 1936, I must advise you that the matters of which you complain do not come within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau. For this reason I will be unable to authorize any investigation in the premises.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

cc-Indianapolis

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Nease	.....

RECORDING SECTION
SEP 23 1936
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EW

10/23/36

10. 1 0 00
Indianapolis, Ind

Sept. 17, 1936

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover -

Dear Sir -

As I have been troubled
more with those right
hangers, LI-7378-132-

RECORDED & INDEXED

I thought I would take

to see more to see if

I could get on my feet

from there. I was right

I was sitting in the

front room a reading

my evening paper when

I heard some one call

my name I got up and

went to the door and

there was Ella Williams

the woman that I was

ack 9-26-36 KRM

a telling you a bout in
my other letter that I
wrote to you, and behind
her was her husband
Charlie Williams They
both come Rushing in
at me in a Threathning
way, I saw I had to do some-
thing I did not have
any weapon on me so I
just reared back like a
soldier and defied them
I told them I was not
afraid of both of them
and they said that they
was not by their self
they said there was a
whole gang of their kind
with them right

around the corner in the
Alley Charlie Williams then
asked me if I was running
all over the neighborhood
telling every body that
he had a big knife open
and was after his family
trying to kill them. I
told him no, I only
ask the women next
door that is Edna Williams
his sister in law if the
little girls was over to her
house. They had come to
my house and cried and
said that they was afraid
that Charlie Williams
was going to kill all
of them, and may

4
williams That is one of the
girls name, the girl that
they took to raise said that
Charlie williams had a
Bib knife and she was a.
afraid That he would
kill all of them. They
said they was on their
way to church to tell the
preacher they were both
crying when they were
talking to me they said
they was afraid he would
kill them all.

as I told you in my
other letter I believe
there are people fanding
against me and I think
they send people here

To say things and then
go away and say that I
said the things that they
said themselves,
They have got people in
other states that are judging
against me, I believe those
gangsters are working all
over the world, for a good
many years they would
send strangers around
here to persecute me, but now
I am finding out who
a good many of them are,
the names of some of
them are, Harry Abell
his Hall, Fred Brewer
Abell, and other names
of his that I do not know.

0
Their names, Ella Williams
Charlie Williams, at 1430
Aster St. O. Haro, at Effie
Deep Spiritualist Church
at I think the number is
1426 Aster St., Whites Spiritualist
Church, Holy Angels Spirit-
ualist Church; and Joseph
Williams 1506 W. Ohio St.,
all 4 may honoran &
family that lives in the
next block west of me on
west Ohio St and whites
that has this second hand
store at 1505 W. Ohio St,
and the Reimer family
that lives at 209 Stoyne
St, Hon McKinney & his
wife Bulah Honoran McKinney

7
Gerald Lesley & Family
Mr. & Mrs Brown 1400 Block
W, Ohio St Ida Suiter 1400
Block W, Ohio St, a Family
by the name of Cook
Another name Washburn
Another name Zike
Claude Mass & Family
They all live in 1400 Blk
W, Ohio St, and a good
many more but no use
to try to name all of them
The children of this
neighborhood some of them
of some of the families
that I have named it
would be a good idea
to have some one to the
school some time

And examine all those
girls from six years old
to sixteen and see how
many was wronged, and
get them to tell who
wronged them and
how many different ones
wronged them and in
whose house it took place
in, and put the lie proof
on them to see if they
were lying or telling the
truth for children around
here sure can lie the
same as they can do other
evil things, then I had
done, if they would
then examine all
the boys at both ends

And see how many of
Them had been Harmed
and make Them tell
who did it and what
They give Them to get
Them to and where it
Took place at there are a lot
of things going on in
this end of the City
it is a shame that they
are getting by with it
it would be a good idea
to ask the Reimer Girls
at 209 Royline St, if their
Father ever made advances
toward them; and their
Brother Bernard Reimer
might be asked what
he is doing climbing

in trucks with different
men and stopping men on
the street. The other day I saw
Bernard Keimer stop a man
on the street and I heard
the man tell him that
he was not putting out any
thing. This May Williams
the little girl that
Charles & Ella Williams
took to raise. They might
ask her about her milk
bottle she is about 10 years
old and they still put her
to bed with a milk bottle
with a nipple on it. They
might ask her who she
sleeps with and if she
ever makes a mistake

11
in the night when she
needed for her bottle, let
don't make sense that they
would put a 10 year old girl
to bed with a nursing
bottle, Mrs. Williams said
that May would sleep her
much longer as long as
Charlie bought her dress
and give her money and
when he quite then May
would talk, May had got
a little tent in the back
yard she told me once
that she saw a negro
man go out the back
yard Mrs. Williams told
me that Charlie had
secret places made in

12
The Basement under the
House, They also have a dry
well I seen them making
it And They have got it
covered up with a Flamer
bed in the back yard,
They might also ask Mary
about her Rapture, she has
told a good many different
Tales about it, how she got
Raptured and why she
had to wear a Cord so
long for, They have even
got it fixed so that They
can use Electricity with
out it running through
the meter, this Election
she goes out every night
and Charlie stays at

Home with the lights
turned out it might be
a good idea to work some
of them when they are
out shopping also, and this
Joseph & Edna Williams
that live next door to me
at 1506 W. Ohio St, Joseph
is a brother to Charlie
Williams, they have three
children they are not
old enough to go to
school yet the 2 oldest ones
are old enough to work
but still they put them
to bed with their milk
bottles and around 12 or
12 o'clock I hear one of
the children start to

Oying and Coughing
and Joseph the Father
will bring the child to
the window and tell him
to spit it out. Spat it all out
I have heard the mother
trying to get one of the
children to smoke a cigarette
They have also got electric
wires fiked down through
the roof and got an entrance
to the attic from a closet
closet. They had a old
man that she said was
a cousin to her set up
in a chair in the yard
every night all night
for a bout 2 weeks a
watching my house and

Trying To get in with me
She said I might do well
Have his money as any body
else, when they saw I would
have nothing to do with
him, they start their war
against me, every few night
her sister, Stella Grider
and her husband comes
there, Stella will be drunk
and stagger around and
tell the people in the neigh-
borhood about something
or other, Stella's other husband
they say died mysteriously
about a year ago and she
married this man that
she knew when she lived
with her husband that's

new lead, and Mrs. Williams
said that Stella's first husband
haunted Stella and her husband
by pounding on the wall so
bad that Stella was talking
about suicide, there are several
others that I think should be
investigated besides the one
that I first mentioned here
are the names of some of the
others, Laura Donovan she has
a married name but I don't
know what it is, she was a
daughter to all Donovan and
step daughter to his wife

1. day Honoré, she had a quarrel
with Laura and her son Claude
Honoré went home with Laura
I did not think they had time
to get home until, May Honoré
yelled at me and told me that
Laura had taken poison and
asked me to go over there I did
not know where she lived so
so she had her daughter Gene
to go with me to direct me to
where she lived, when I got
there Laura was unconscious
in a short time the police
came I had been trying to

It is her brother I had heard it
was good to give any one who
had taken pains I took her from
off her as I did so something
fell out of the pocket, it was
cigarette making a nickel and
a scrap of paper, The Police ask
me who they were and I gave
them to the Police, on the paper
was scribbled Claude Llama.
The name was not finished
it looked like she had made
a last effort to write her
Half Brothers name and was not
able to finish it,

The women no longer to live next
door to me where the Williams
now live, and every time she
got pregnant she would say that
when it come she was going
to kill it or take it to white
river and throw it in and
drown it, there was one of her
Babys died when they lived
there, she said that old man
Bill he at that time lived
in that shed in the rear of her
house had a entrance made so
as to pass through her shed
to get to the other buildings

There. Now Harry & Clifford own
without being seen by outsiders
that Jim Hill is now dead,
but another man lives in that
shed, I don't think things are
any better now from the way
they real around drunk,
There is also a shack across
the street up the alley where
they hang around drunk
most of the time; another
place that might be investigated
is a Tillberry Girl that was
supposed to commit suicide,
and another one is Flassie

Robbinette. She is Ella Williams
that I have been telling you about
her daughter, Ella Williams
told me that she was with
her daughter Flossie Robbinette
the night before she died the
next day, she said Flossie's
husband kicked Flossie in
the side and that the neighbors
heard Flossie crying and beg
him to get a doctor for her.
and that he would not do so
said she was sent to the Ho-
pital later and died, after her
death she had left two

insider & 2 Insurance Policies
she said Flossie's husband took
one of the children and give
her one, and also give her one
half of the Insurance money
you might find out also that
her uncle Robert Pruitt was
insured, his age put at about
20 years younger than who
he was so as to get more
Insurance money, he is now
dead, I believe a Gang of them
go around to different Churches
and in Homes under the

Perforce of saying good and
hope people and get them to
do and say most anything
that they want them to,
like I told you in the other
letter Ella Williams bringing
those strangers men to my
house in the year of 1921 and
hoping me; hoping me to
sign all of them papers
that I do not know what I was
signing, that was the year
that they hoped that man

and I went to my House and
got him to Kill himself
There was one man who claimed
to be a Spiritulast he said he
was going to correct me and my
mother and one of my Brothers
and one of my Sisters up with
evil spirits so we would live
in Torment as long as we
lived and then meet a
Terrible death when we did
die, and he made all kinds
of vile threats on us,

5 did not think so much about
it. I thought they were just
a lot of nuts, but that was
way back in 1921, here it is
now 1936, and I know now that
it is a fact that there are a
gang of Human Rats that
are getting worse all the
time the longer they are let
go the worse they get, crime
is a pleasure to them, they
thirst for blood, when they
commit a murder gleefully
at and brag about it.

of my Brother his name
was Claude Foster. A
strange man came to my
house and told me, he said
well we have let him live
and tortured him as long
as we can now we are going
to take him for a ride and
it will be a one way ride.
I ask him if he meant they
would bring him back
dead and he said no that
they did not intend to
bring him back at all

me said The Police sent him
to tell me, he said it would
just be a one way ride, he
said The Police said that
they was going to take him
to The Hospital and that they
was going to kill him at
The Hospital, I did not no
who they were talking about
but once a strange man come
to my house and said he was
Claude Foster and I told him
he was not, be cause Claude

one was my Brother and
I knew he was not Claude
Foster, but he still claimed
that was his name so I
thought maby there was
more than one Claude Foster
and maby that was his
name, so later on another
man come to my House and
started to talk about Claude
Foster, and called him a
Gangster, and I told him
that Claude Foster was not
a Gangster that he was

my Brother, They said They
was Talking about The Gangster
by That name, so when
They come and called him
a Gangster and said They
was going to Take him to
The Hospital and Kill him
I did not no That They was
Talking about my Brother,
in about a month after
The men come and told me
That They was going to
Take him for a one way

single and Bill Hiram, I got
a Telegram from Louisville
Ky, That Told me my Brother
Claude Foster was dead, I
did not know when I got there
if I would see my Brother
or this strange man by the
same name that they called
a Hanger, The man that
came and told me that they
was going to take him
for a ride and kill him
also said that they was
going to plant a Popl

keynote on him to make to look
like he was a dope peddler,
when I got to Louisville, Ky.
I had to go to the Police Station
to find out where my Brother
lived at, so I think to myself
well I will just tell the Police
all about this and let them
investigate it, you see I had
no idea that the Police would
be involved in a killing,
so I ask the Police about it
and they said yes that was
so they said they took Claude

To The Hospital and waited in
the next room until they
killed him, they seemed to
be much pleased about their
part in the killing. They said
they took him to millers
funeral place and he was not
dead so they took him back to
the Hospital and had him
killed again, still I thought
they must be talking about
some one else besides my
brother, I ask the Police to
take me to millers where

my Brother was at, when I got
there Mrs. Miller confronted
me with papers in her hand
and demanded money from
me for her part in the case,
she said she would not let
me see my Brother until I
paid her, I had on awfull time
but finally got to see him.
and then they would not let
us have him at first, and we
had on awfull time to induce
them to let us have him
so we could bury him.

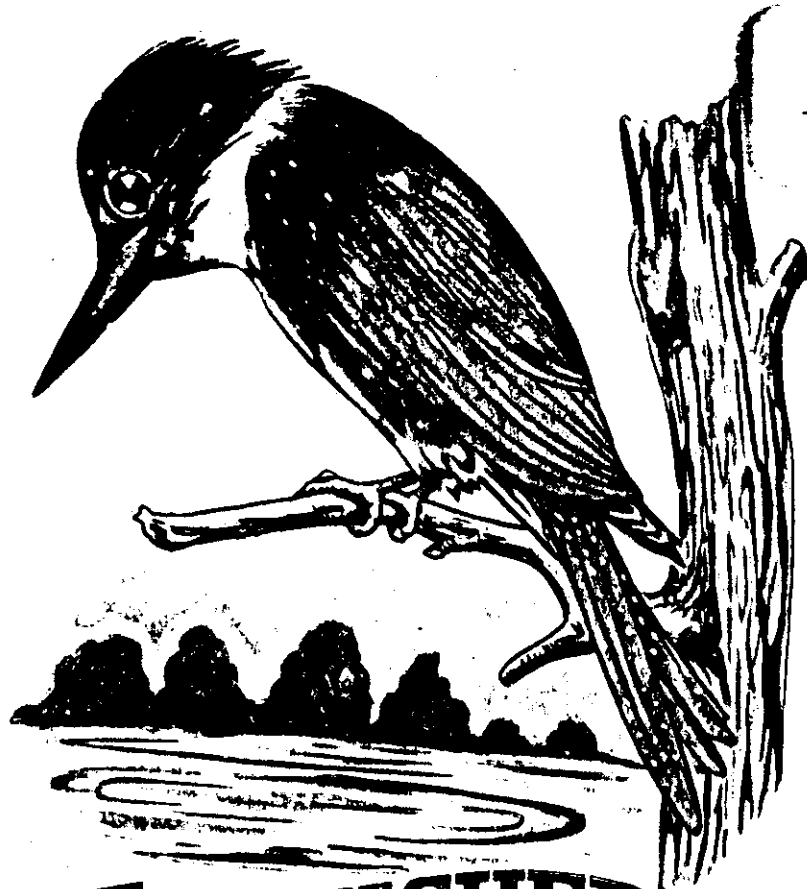
that job place will be three
years about the 14 or 15 of October
I do wish that you will do
every thing you can to investigate
his death and I will help
in any way I can if there
is any thing that I can do
to help, you see there must be
some police in that Gangab
later on when I mentioned
my Brother's death to the
Williams, Charles Williams
said, was that him, was
that the right one, I ask
him what he meant by that

removal, and ³⁵ he said is that
The Brother that lived in
your House, I said yes, and he
said, That's him all right,
They got the right one all
right, I tried to find out what
he meant but had no success,
So I do think and I believe
you will think the same
That it should be investigated
I have been praying every
service that it will be cleared
up, and I will continue to
pray to that effect, and I

ness, with enough being
that the Lord will hear and
answer my prayer, I think you
should find out in what way
they do their killing, there
was a man who said he was
Henry Hutchins he told me
that he killed a man while
working at Kingans co. he
said he threw a Bot on his
head and killed him and
at the hospital they called
at spinal my friend, another
man called him self
Harris Abel he said he killed

37
my Brother, Claude by sleep-
ing him in the net with
a knife, another coal is a
woman she confessed to me
that she mited varnish
remover and wood alcohol
to Geather and poisoned her
two husband at the same
time, Charles Payne & Bure
Hampshire was there none
her name at that time was
Sadie Hampshire, but I
think she is married again
another husband also met
a tragic death his name
was Porter, Yours Truly

Mrs. Ethel Libell
1508 W. Ohio St.
Indianapolis, Ind.



THE FISHER

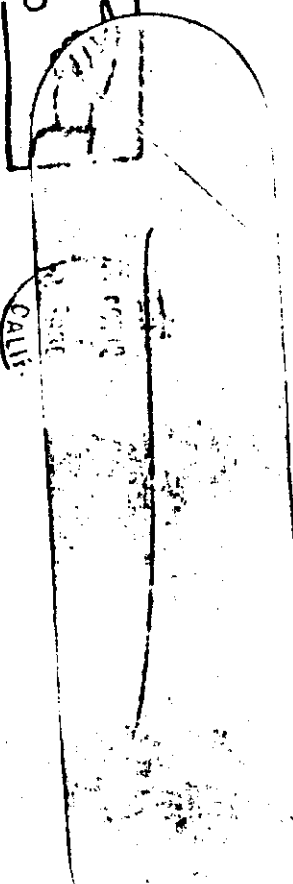
WRITING TABLET

No. M-101

61-7398-132

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

UPN
RTER
LAIMED



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300



Moved to
Unknown

12
Serial No. 152

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 5, 1936.

Mr. James A. Cooper,
1109 Summit Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your undated postal card which was received at this Bureau on September 28, 1936, in which you request this Bureau to undertake an investigation as to the activities of the Black Legion.

I must advise you that the matter of which you complain does not come within the investigative jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, for which reason it will be impossible for me to authorize any affirmative action in the premises.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

KAM/cj

61-7398-133

✓
H

I strongly urge investigation
by your department of Black Legion
activities, since I believe it is too
big for one state to handle properly.

Respectfully Yours,

James A. Cooper
1109 Sunset Blvd
Los Angeles

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

61-7398-123	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
SEP 29 1936 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ONE	FILE

OCT 6 1936

ack. L.A.
10/5/36
KRM

KRM:GJ

61-7398-134

October 14, 1936.

RECORDED

Mrs. August Teal,
1021 West 17th Street,
Muncie, Indiana.

Dear Madam:

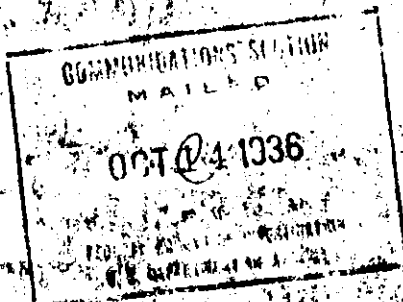
Please be informed that the letter which you directed to Mr. W. H. Drane Lester of this Bureau, dated October 1, 1936, has been brought to my attention for appropriate consideration.

I must advise you that the matters of which you complain do not come within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau, for which reason it will be impossible for me to authorize any investigation in the premises.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

CC - Indianapolis



[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten initials]

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice
506 Fletcher Trust Building
Indianapolis, Indiana
October 5, 1936

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Re: Mrs. August Teal and
Mrs. Magdalene Linnie Porter,
Muncie, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

Upon my arrival in Muncie, Indiana, on the afternoon of October 2, 1936 to fill a speaking engagement there, I found the enclosed letter awaiting me, which purports to be from one Mrs. August Teal, 1021 Seventeenth Street, Muncie, Indiana, and sets out alleged threats against and persecution of her friend, Mrs. Magdalene Linnie Porter.

These two women contacted me at the conclusion of my talk in Muncie upon the morning of October 3, 1936.

They stated substantially the same things contained in the enclosed letter, and I pointed out to them that the matters about which they complained did not constitute any Federal violation over which the Federal Bureau of Investigation had jurisdiction.

Both of these women were very unkempt in appearance and are apparently religious fanatics suffering from a persecution complex.

You might desire to acknowledge receipt of this letter to Mrs. Teal as a matter of record, stating that the matters contained therein do not constitute a violation over which the Bureau has investigative jurisdiction.

Very truly yours,

W. H. Drane
W. H. Drane Lester,
Inspector,

OCT 15 1936

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE
ack'd
10/11/36
Lester

Mrs. Porter stays here at my home at 1130
north and a half block to back to the shack on N. 1130
day. The house she gave up is fine and ready for
occupation. Mrs. Deal, Muncie
and they are in the office.

Major W H Drane Lester

As God is in Heaven the
truth

Dear Sir:-

I noticed in the morning

tion of the Muncie Press of your presence here as a
Edgar Hoover, G-man and am sending a most earnest
sincere appeal to you for help in something a friend
and I was attempting to later send to Washington
if all appeals to justice here in Muncie fail. I
am sure you should at least hear of it and re-
port it to Mr. Hoover. We had even considered try-
ing to see President Roosevelt if possible but be-
ing no means and our mail so severely censored
the P.O. here in Muncie we thought of getting an
appeal to you in person. There is a reign of terror
here in the s. west part of town sponsored by Bl
League terrorists and one particular victim who is a
friend Mrs Magdalene Linnie Porter a highly intelligent
woman who had always lived as decent a life as she could
could with a bawdy life on the west side of town
on 12th & Sampson Ave. Terrorized in a systematic
manner for nearly 18 yrs having everything stolen from
openly & secretly by lies or force first her building mai-
household goods then finally her husband & house to
from her by dastardly indecent false pictures shown to
and the house given her husband and a lower

thing is getting to be a
lost their husbands & homes a fact
to their loan companies. When ever the studies a gun
less death several fighters having went that way. I
since my friend and I are fighting it after years of
thrust through the rickety walls of our homes
nearly electrified and when we "kick" are labeled
to keep people of authority from believing us. A
years of fighting to obtain a lawyer, being tricked
themselves, my friend Mrs Porter, his

careful whom
Murphy whose office is above
rent. It. They nearly have him. Another lawyer Thomas Miller &
my friend had no place to stay but a little shun
by herself and hired watchman among goods on the
lot the goods were thrown out of doors by Sherr. Per
is main tool for business and are still there on lot dan
by weather. Mrs Porter staid there but could no lo
nightly shooting by gathered group who had at least
12 Jeeps in front of her house was no secret. &
Bennington made them close one when he saw
it. He even tried to get her brother to
fled state, refusing. Leader of group now is hiring
to shoot us. Get my husband away and attempt
to door but scare us terribly by shooting openly
into gunman hired by loan comp. which is trying to
kill us. The worst man faced us with gun
to his death. This determined stand deadly
only the grace of the
peace. M

about 10 years ago. I had
most script added a time after
thought. I forgot to tell that Mrs
Porter flees for her life to this
friend at that and each friend
who shelters her rightly is in
danger of having her house torn
down if she is not killed or
injured with Mrs Porter. Mrs
Porter and I are very religious
and spend a good part of our
time in fervent prayer.

This gang is wicked and
threatened openly to my husband
that they would tear our house
down over our heads to get and
kill Mrs Porter and to kill us
if we keep interfering and I
saw them even offer money to
my husband to betray her. But

Mrs Porter had a wife in a state of siege for 10 years. I was in that state for 10 years.

he swades them. He does not
fuse them outright nor will agonize
them they are so revengeful and
have beaten several men to the
point of death or insanity.
~~and make them~~ and
members of their gang. Last
night they kicked my screen
door in. They open places about
my home windows, walls etc as
fast as I mend them. My
husband is exposed to them daily
and once after being in a doped
~~condition for some time~~ and
was kept in a hospital for
several days while the gang
terrorized Mrs Porter & I. They
are fast ruining my name now
by nefarious talk and doings
but Mrs Porter and I hold fast
to Gods promise to rid this town
off this terrible gang of people
Mrs J

100

100

100

Em

JAS:MK

October 8, 1936.

**MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOSEPH B. KEENE
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

I have noted that many threatening communications containing demands for money are presently being forwarded and signed "The Black Legion". Inquiries conducted relative to such communications have in no instance indicated that the communications received were actually forwarded by the organization known as "The Black Legion" or by members thereof.

In the past it has been my practice to inform you in each instance of this kind that inquiries conducted were being limited to those involving the threatening communication, and that no inquiries were being conducted relative to "The Black Legion".

You are advised that in the event further communications bearing similar signatures are received, appropriate inquiries will be conducted to ascertain if there has been a violation of the Federal extortion statutes under which this Bureau conducts investigation, but that no inquiries will be conducted relative to "The Black Legion".

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

RECORDED

61-7398-135

RECEIVED INVESTIGATION

OCT 14 1936

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

OCT 8 1936

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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KRM:VTL

61-7398-136

October 21, 1936.

RECORDED

Mr. [REDACTED]
American Falls, Idaho.

Dear Sir:

I sincerely appreciate the interest which prompted you in directing your letter to me dated October 8, 1936, with reference to the activities of the Black Legion, and with further reference to the illicit traffic in narcotics.

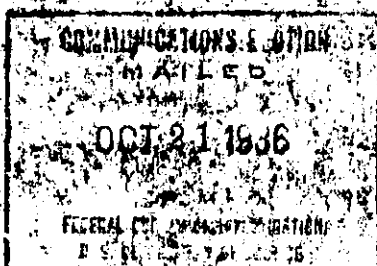
I regret to advise you that the matters referred to in your letter do not come within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau, for which reason it would be impossible for me to authorize any investigation in the premises.

In keeping with your request, however, you are advised that matters relating to illicit traffic in narcotics come within the investigative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Narcotics, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C. It is, therefore, suggested that you may desire to direct a letter to Honorable H. J. Anslinger, Commissioner, Bureau of Narcotics, Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

cc-Butte



[REDACTED]
AMERICAN FALLS
IDAHO

October 8, 1936.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is being written to inquire whether the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, concerns itself with activities of the Black Legion or the illicit traffic in narcotics.

More than a year ago two organizers came to American Falls and formed a branch of the Black Legion. A dental surgeon, Dr. Hilding Beckstrom, a drug addict, was placed at the head of the local society.

Subsequently Dr. Beckstrom went to the apartment [REDACTED] and attempted to assassinate him. [REDACTED] grappled with Dr. Beckstrom, and by the time the intruder was able to draw a .38-calibre automatic pistol from his pocket the assistant manager of the hotel arrived and prevented him from firing. Later Dr. Beckstrom was fined \$25.00 for carrying a concealed weapon.

We have very good reason to believe that Beckstrom is interested in the sale of narcotics, with at least two more persons implicated. In the event that one of your investigators can be sent here we will furnish him with the names of men known to have joined the Black Legion; with the names of several drug addicts, and with evidence tending to show that drugs are being handled. We can furnish considerable information.

If your department does not investigate cases of this kind, will you please advise me as to the proper federal bureau with which to communicate?

Respectfully,

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

OCT 22 1936

65-7398-136

ack 10/21/36

cc: Butler

R. L. M.

JAS:RD

RECORDED

October 14, 1936

61-7398-137

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL McMAHON

I am in receipt of your memorandum of September 29, 1936 and have noted that all communications of a threatening nature received in the Department in the future, will be transmitted to this Bureau without unnecessary handling.

I am returning herewith the letter received in the Department from Mr. K. P. Aldrich, Chief Inspector, Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., dated September 16, 1936.

I am retaining the other enclosures forwarded with your memorandum.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure 1020079

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED

OCT 14 1936

RECEIVED THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OCT 14 1936

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
DETAILS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RM

202600-2866

September 29, 1936

MEMORANDUM FOR J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR,

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Transmitted herewith is a letter, dated September 16, 1936, from Chief Inspector K. P. Aldrich of the Post Office Department, inclosing three envelopes mailed at Detroit, Michigan and addressed to Mr. E. Jones, The City News Store, Charlottesville, Virginia; Mr. E. Eiberger, Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Mr. O. K. W. Howard, The Smoke Shop, Florence, South Carolina. Each of these envelopes contained an identical sheet, herewith attached, bearing a pictorial representation of a masked person posing in a manner now popularly construed to symbolize the "Black Legion".

While an examination of the envelopes and sheets in question fails to disclose a violation of any Federal law or laws, the same are being forwarded to you for consideration in connection with a recent telephone conversation had between Mr. Tamm of your Division, and Mr. Fish of this Division. This conversation concerned the possibility of routing all future threatening letters received in this Division from the Division of Records of the Department to your Division first for such finger printing purposes as may be deemed necessary before they are transmitted by you to this Division for consideration.

Mr. Tamm agreed to this procedure after it had been indicated to him that the suggestion which was made by Mr. Woll of this Division had received my approval, and that it was thought to be in line with the procedure suggested in your memorandum of August 28, last, to me concerning threatening letters received by Mr. William A. Koren, Niagara Falls, New York. As a result of this conversation, Mr. Mayhall of the Division of Records was instructed by Mr. Fish to transmit to your Division, without unnecessary handling, all future communications of a threatening nature received by the Department.

RECORDED & INDEXED

1 ENCLW

BRIEN McMAHON
Assistant Attorney General.

Inclosure No. 788.

Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Joseph
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Miss Gandy

OFF:rf

Smith *JM*

61-7398-137
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 16 1936
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
TAMM ONE

COPY - rd

EAS:TES

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Office of The Chief Inspector

Washington

September 16, 1936.

The Honorable

The Attorney General,

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Attention of the Criminal Division.

Transmitted herewith are three envelopes mailed at Detroit, Michigan, addressed to Mr. E. Jones, The City News Store, Charlottesville, Virginia; Mr. E. Eiberger, Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Mr. O. K. W. Howard, The Smoke Shop, Florence, South Carolina. Each of these envelopes, which were all mailed on the same date and apparently at the same point, contains an identical sheet bearing a pictorial representation of a masked person in a pose that is now popularly construed to symbolize the "Black Legion". The addressees of these communications have complained to this Department regarding their receipt through the mails, but none of them could furnish any information as to the identity of the mailer.

The communications are not regarded as unmailable under the postal laws but with the thought that they may be of interest to your Department they are forwarded for such attention as may be deemed advisable.

Very truly yours,

For the Postmaster General,

/s/ K. P. Aldrich
Chief Inspector.

Inclosures.
P/S

RECORDED

ENCL W

OCT 20 1936

61-2398-137	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 16 1936	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
INDEXED	FILE

Mr. E. E. Eibinger
108 W. 17 St
Cheyenne

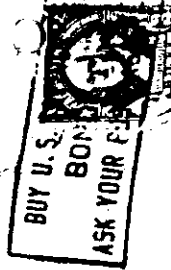
Please deliver
this to
P.M.
Wyo. City



BUY U.S. SAVINGS
BO
ASK YOUR







Mr. E. Jones
The City News Store
116 W. Main St
Charlottesville Va



BUY U.S. SAVINGS BONDS
ASK YOUR POSTMAN



Mr. O.K. W. Howard
The Smoke Shop 684
P.O. Box 19
Florence, S.C.



61-7348-138
Changed to 4-2242

61-7398-139

KAT:TMF

October 28, 1936

Mr. James M. Blissell,
City Editor,
The Lima News,
Lima, Ohio

Dear Mr. Blissell:

I have received your letter of October 21, 1936, referring to Virgil H. Effinger, alleged to be an officer of the Black Legion, and desire to advise you that this Bureau is not conducting any investigation at this time into the activities or organization of the Black Legion. For your information, the investigative jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is restricted by law to the conducting of investigations of violations of specified Federal Statutes and the collecting of evidence in cases in which the United States is or may be a party in interest. In the absence of some indication of a violation of some Federal Statute within the Bureau's jurisdiction, the Bureau is without authority to conduct investigation in any situation and consequently has not conducted any investigation into the operations of the Black Legion and is not searching for Virgil H. Effinger.

May I suggest that the information in your possession pertaining to Virgil H. Effinger's whereabouts, be furnished to the state officers of Michigan for appropriate attention.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED

OCT 29 1936

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Eux

THE LIMA NEWS

LIMA, OHIO

October 21, 1936.

Edgar J. Hoover, Esq.,
Director, Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

X Assuming the search for Virgil H. Effinger, Lima man reputed to be a commander of the Black Legion, is still an "active" FBI case, I am writing to inquire into two angles which you may or may not have probed and which may provide a clue as to his whereabouts.

My reporters understand payments have been continued to be paid on his automobile to The Colonial Finance Co., Lima, and that he is a recipient of a pension check monthly for service in the Spanish-American war. If this be true, especially the latter, and the checks have been cashed, a trail might be picked up through endorsements and charges of harboring brought. He should have received checks for September and October. I assume this information would be available to your office from the veterans' administration.

Effinger is also reported to be a prodigious eater and we understand that the same large grocery orders are being delivered to his house as before his disappearance.

My writing you is because of the fact the city and county authorities seem to have reached a stalemate in whatever attempts they have made to locate Effinger.

I am enclosing one of the few known pictures of Effinger and which we were successful in obtaining in his "basement office" when the case first broke in Detroit.

Thanking you for anything you may be able to "crack" for us, and assuring you of our desire to work for the upholding of law and order, I am,

RECORDED

& Sincerely,
INDEXED

James N. Blissett.

61-7398-13

RECEIVED

10-21-36

10-21-36



TMM:VTL
61-7398 -140

November 14, 1936.

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge,
Cleveland, Ohio.

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
.45 Calibre Colt Automatic
Pistol, Model 1911, #251440 -
THEFT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.

Dear Sir:

The Washington Field Office has advised the Bureau that Mr. E. L. Kahlert, Field Service, Ordnance Office, War Department, has completed circularizing the nine Army Corps Areas and the nine Ordnance Arsenals and Depots for information concerning the above described pistol, and as a result of this circularization he was unable to locate any record relative to the loss or theft of the above pistol.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington Field Office, Room 4244,
Washington, D. C.

October 29, 1936.

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT,
.45 calibre Colt Automatic Pistol,
Model 1911. #251440.
THEFT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

Dear Sir:

Reference is again made to your letter dated August 27, 1936,
(Bureau File No. 61-7398) and to my letter addressed to you dated September
2, 1936.

Mr. E. L. Kahlert, Field Service, Ordnance Office, War Department,
has completed circularizing the nine Army Corps Areas and the nine Ordnance
Arsenals and Depots for information concerning the above described pistol,
and has advised that as a result of same he was unable to locate any record
referring to the loss or theft of that pistol.

Very truly yours,

J. M. Keith
J. M. KEITH,
Special Agent in Charge.

RPB:EE
52-956

*Letter
Cleveland
11/14/36
JMK*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED.

NOV 2 1936

Adm

61-7398-140

OCT 31 1936

ONE

FILE

Toledo, Ohio.
November 10, 1936

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
RE: ENVELOPE ATTACHER

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Government Detective;
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir;

According to many reports in this town, there is a very scandalous affair being carried on for the last two years at 2347 Robinwood Ave. There is a machine installed there on the third floor in which poisonous gases have been used. It is of the type that was used in the recent Italian Ethiopian war. There are rumors that it has made many ill in the old west end.

There are a few cars with the same license numbers which have often been seen in front of this residence. For further information you might look up some Ohio numbers. Number 8364 C and 1444 C have been seen in front of this address many times. Also numbers 1566 A and 9540 B, have had passengers who were seen leaving the above address. It is considered something very secret.

Some say that it is a unit of the Black Legion, and many are of the opinion that it can kill a person instantly.

This case should command your immediate attention.

Very sincerely,

A local citizen

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

61-7398-141
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 13 1936 A. M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

License Number



Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Government Detective
Washington
D.C.

AMH:CF

November 25, 1936.

RECORDED

Mr. Robert E. Moore,
Superintendent,
Identification Bureau,
Sheriff's Office,
Detroit, Michigan.

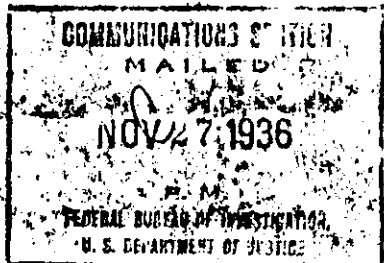
Dear Sir:

I wish to assure you of my appreciation of your
letter of November 9, 1936, to which was attached data with
reference to Thomas Cox and the abduction of Robert Penland.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

CC - Detroit



[Handwritten signature]

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

1105 Mills Tower,
San Francisco, California
November 12, 1936

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: BLACK LEGION

There are transmitted here-
with copies of letters apparently written by one
[redacted] San Francisco, California, which
were sent to the Commanding General of the Presidio
of San Francisco, and also to the Division of Secret
Service in San Francisco, concerning the "Black
Legion."

No active investigation in
connection with this matter will be initiated,
unless contrary instructions are received from the
Bureau.

Very truly yours,

W. L. Listerman

W. L. LISTERMAN,
Special Agent in Charge

WLL:MLA
Enc/2

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

61-7591-143

NOV 18 1936

ONE 123

15

Washington Field Division, Rm. 424,
Washington, D.C.

November 25, 1936.

Mr. T. M. Milligan,
Inspector in Charge,
Post Office Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of November 24, 1936 in which you enclosed an anonymous threatening letter referred to your office by the Postmaster at Alexandria, Virginia.

I have carefully reviewed the contents of the letter and same fails to come within the purview of the Federal Statute dealing with extortion. Therefore, no action will be taken by this Bureau.

The enclosures transmitted with your letter of November 24, 1936 are returned herewith.

Very truly yours,

GUY HOTTEL,
Special Agent in Charge.

GH:MBL
ENC.

cc-Bureau with enclosures

RECORDED
INDEXED

DEC 1 1936

61-7398-144

PA

United States Post Office

Alexandria, Va.
Nov. 23, 1936.

Inspector in Charge,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:-

I am sending herewith a letter postmarked at
Washington, D.C. Nov. 20, 8.30p.m., 1936 addressed to Harry's
Market, 20 A Hume Ave., Alexandria, Va. which appears to be
a threat, for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Postmaster.

61-7398-144

C
O
(P
Y

We want you to get
out, and get out
quick, if you do not

we will blow your building

up, or take you all

for nicer little ride

the black legion

envelope addressed: 201 Hume Ave.

Harrys, Market
20A Hume, Ave.

Alex.
Va.

San Francisco, Calif.

November 1, 1936

Mr. Foster, Agent in Charge,
U. S. Secret Service,
San Francisco

Sir:

Thinking perhaps the U.S. Government may be making
an investigation of the Black Legion, a subversive
set and a menace to our democratic form of Gov't.,
I submit the names for possible investigation:

- (1) Mr. Ralph Croston, sometimes at Box 97, Castro
Ave., Mt. View, Calif. (his aunt, Mrs. S. Thomas'
place) and sometimes elsewhere in San Francisco,
etc. (a former KKK member, etc.)
- (2) Mr. Bill Hall, croony of #1, sometimes at Box
97, Castro Ave., Mt. View, Calif.
- (3) Mrs. Myra Zimbrick (an aunt of #1 to whom Mrs. S.
Thomas was heard to say: "Well, I think the KKK
is all right if they make them work." (Poole was
a WPA worker and union men as you doubtless know
have been attacked by the Black Legion).

Hatred of Jews; Catholics (covertly) Negroes, etc.,
is strong amongst these elements --- also an unwarranted
desire to reform united with corruption.

Yours for the preservation of American democracy and
general decency,

(signed) [REDACTED]

61-7398-143

C O P Y

November 1, 1936

San Francisco, California

Gen. Simonds,
Commanding 9th Corps Area,
Presidio of San Francisco

Sir:

It is understood the Black Legion is active in these parts and so, thinking the Army may wish to or actually be engaged in combating these potential, if not already in fact traitors to our Government, and cruel tortures of innocent U. S. Citizens, I submit the following as suspects to be investigated:

- (1) Mr. Ralph Croston (former KKK Member, last known to be at his aunt: Mrs. S. Thomas; place, Box. 97, Castro Ave., Mt. View, Calif.)
- (2) Mr. Bill Hall, (ohum, if not fellow member of Black Legion, of #1) Box 97, Castro Ave., Mt. View, Cal. (a native of the south)
- (3) Mrs. Myra Zimbrick (aunt of #1) to whom Mrs. Thomas was heard to say recently: "Well, I think the KKK are all right if they make them work." (Chas. Poole, WPA worker was killed by Black Legion and union men have also been killed as you doubtless know.)

Yours for the preservation of American democracy and law,

(signed) [REDACTED]

Chief

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

1448 Standard Building,
Cleveland, Ohio

ATTENTION: TECHNICAL LABORATORY

November 27, 1936

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

Re: BLACK LEGION; NIGHT RIDERS;
BULLET CLUB;
Miscellaneous - Confidential

Dear Sir:

There are attached hereto two typewritten letters, one postmarked August 14, 1936, at 5:00 P.M., addressed to Mr. Albert Phillips, 418 Keith Building, Cleveland, Ohio, and reading:

"Mr. Albert Phillips we demand that you arrange at once to have Alba E. Kelley T.B. allowance restored to him at once. And restore it from March 1936. If you dont we are going to take you for a ride, and you may never return.

Signed Black Legion"

The other letter is postmarked August 14, 1936, at 5:00 P.M., addressed to Dr. Z.T. Wirtschafter, 418 Keith Building, Cleveland, Ohio, and reads:

"Dr. Wirtschafter we demand that you arrange at once to have Alba E. Kelley T.B. allowance restored to him at once. And have it restored to him from March first 1936. If you dont we are going to take you for a ride. And you may never return.

Signed Black Legion"

It is requested that the Technical Laboratory examine the attached letters and ascertain the make and style of typewriter used and such other information as will be of value in the investigation of this case. It is also requested that the letters be processed for fingerprints; in this connection it should be remembered that the attached letters were received by Mr. Phillips and Dr. Wirtschafter on August 15, 1936.

RECEIVED

very truly yours,

RECEIVED

J.P. MacFarland,
Special Agent in Charge

1936

CES/lrl

Enclosures (2)

cc - Indianapolis

Technical Lab.

DEC 7 - 1936

10-1-36
10-1-36
10-1-36

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Date 12-5-36

FROM: Technical Laboratory

TO: Single Fingerprint Section

Case Number: 61-15-1015

No latent fingerprints developed ✓

Iodine prints developed on _____

Silver nitrate prints on _____

____ Identiscope negatives attached hereto.

REMARKS: _____

E. P. Coffey

By: [Signature]

Examiner.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

12926
952

Laboratory Report

Case: Black Legion; Night Riders;
Bullet Club;
Miscellaneous-Confidential

Number: 61-7398-145

Specimens: 61-7398-145 Q1 One typewritten letter beginning "Mr. Albert Phillips**
" Q2 One envelope postmarked South Bend, Ind. 2 Aug 14, 1936 5 PM.
" Q3 One typewritten letter beginning "Dr. Wirtschafter we**
" Q4 One envelope postmarked South Bend, Ind. 2 Aug 14, 1936 5 PM addressed to Dr. Z. T. Wirtschafter.

Examination requested by: Cleveland

Date received: 12-3-36 (9:00 AM ft) (12-4-36 9:00 A.M. chp)

Examination requested: Document-Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by: Lovett
Potter

No latent developed
cc-Indianapolis

ral/fs

61-7398-145

December 15, 1936

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge,
Cleveland, Ohio.

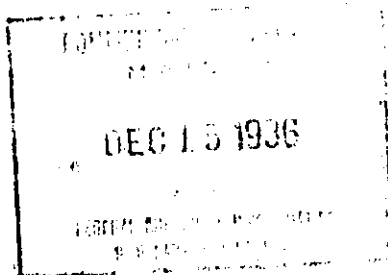
Re: Black Legion; Night Riders;
Bullet Club; Miscellaneous -
Confidential.

Dear Sir:

With reference to Laboratory Report # 112926, in connection with the above entitled case, there are transmitted herewith photographic copies of the following specimens which your office submitted for examination:

61-7398-145 Q1 through Q4

pal



Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure # 1065099

Handwritten initials and marks, including 'H' and 'C'.

RAL:MM

December 8, 1936.

RECORDED

61-7398-146

Special Agent in Charge,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Re: Black Legion; Night Riders;
Bullet Club;
Miscellaneous - Confidential.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith the laboratory report covering the examination of specimens submitted by your office in connection with the above entitled matter and received in the Bureau December 3, 1936.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Enclosure: #1106457

cc-Indianapolis ✓

DEC 9 - 1936

DEC 11 1936

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

Laboratory Report
~~December 8, 1926.~~Case: Black Legion; Night Riders;
Bullet Club;
Miscellaneous - Confidential.

Number: 61-7398-145

Specimens:

- Q1. One typewritten letter beginning: "Mr. Albert Phillips---".
Q2. One envelope postmarked, "South Bend, Indiana, 2, August 14, 1936,
5 P. M."
Q3. One typewritten letter beginning: "Dr. Wirtschafter we---".
Q4. One envelope postmarked, "South Bend, Indiana, 2, August 14, 1936,
5 P. M." addressed to "Dr. Z. T. Wirtschafter".

Examination requested by: Cleveland

Date received: 12-3-36

Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Result of examination:

Examination by: Lovett

From a comparison of the typewriting on the instant envelopes and enclosures designated as specimens 145 Q1 through Q4, the conclusion has been reached that they were all typewritten on the same machine.

Due to certain similarities of the letters of the typewriting on the questioned specimens, the conclusion has been reached that the original letters were typewritten on a typewriter equipped with Underwood Pica style type spaced ten letters to the inch. It is probable that this style of type was placed on Underwood machines subsequent to 1927. Also, this style of type was placed on both the Underwood standard and portable typewriters.

The sheet designated as 145 Q1 has a white linen finish, measures approximately 5x5.8", and was evidently torn from a tablet or bound pad as indicated by red wax or binding material at the top of the sheet. Also, this sheet was torn from a larger sheet to the approximate dimensions as given above. The envelope designated as specimen Q2 is plain white, has a smooth finish, and measures approximately 5x3.2". This envelope has a bond texture. The sheet designated as specimen Q3 has a linen finish, measures approximately 5x8", has a wove texture, and was probably torn from a tablet as evidenced by the presence of red binding material along the top edge. The envelope designated as specimen Q4 is plain white, has a smooth finish, and measures approximately 5x3.2". None of the above specimens contains watermark.

RECORDED

&

INDEXED

DEC 16 1936

61-7398-146

DEC 16 1936

Page 2,
Laboratory Report #12926,
December 8, 1936.

The original evidence was treated for the development of latent fingerprints but none was developed.

A photographic copy of the letters will be placed in the Laboratory's anonymous letter file for comparison purposes. In the event an identification is effected your office will be notified.

Photographic copies of the specimens submitted will be forwarded to your office within the next several days.

THE ORIGINAL EVIDENCE WHICH WAS SUBMITTED IS BEING RETAINED IN THE LABORATORY FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATIONS WHICH MAY BE DESIRED. SHOULD YOUR OFFICE DESIRE THIS ORIGINAL EVIDENCE FOR USE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS WHICH MAY DEVELOP THE BUREAU SHOULD BE NOTIFIED IN AMPLE TIME TO PERMIT TRANSMITTAL.

1-Bureau
1-Cleveland
1-Indianapolis
1-Laboratory

December 18 1936

Mr. Hoover

Black Legion
Mugshot
Communications
quite some
time ago, there was a piece
in the paper; about a
colored man, being burned
in his home. This crime
was committed by the B.L.
The man, who was in charge
was the man who was re-
peatedly named as the
head of the B.L. in several
states. He is middle age
squat, with a pouch. He
wore a old fashioned bow
crown derby hat, dark suit
white shirt, white socks, bow
ties

RECORDED
INDEXED

DEC 23 1936
ONE PM

He had with him, at least five boys. The house was of insane delight a sort of insane delight. The house had a base like front of red brick. The little barn built onto it, was of wood, and jutted out at the sides, one side the entrance to the house and the other to the house. One of the boys did some thing in the corner of the house and barn, and then they made a chain, and tip toed over to the other corner, where a second

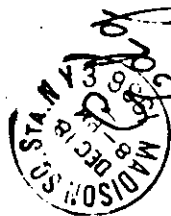
was still going on. Two people ago, I saw a other mendish thing done. This time the shack, probably was all wood, and poor - then the first. There was a man, with a black skull cap on his head. He had, what looked to a small balloon, made of strong canvas. On the end was a drill, and he was drilling a hole in the back wall, and after that releasing some poison gas, or at least deadly fumes, and

This is only a few nights
ago, so perhaps the poor
man or familie, has not
even been found.
On both nights there was
no moon.

REC'D - 10 27 AM - 1926

FILES SECTION

RECEIVED



Westbrook
Franklin
Madison

ACCUSED FOUNDER OF "LEGION" IS DEAD

Isaac (Peg Leg Stull) White, Held
as First Head of Detroit Cult,
Is Victim of Pneumonia.

By the Associated Press.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Dec. 21.—
Isaac (Peg Leg Stull) White, ar-
rested as the founder of the Black
Legion of Michigan, died at a hos-
pital yesterday of complications
arising from lobar pneumonia.

White died without talking about
his activities in the Black Legion,
of which he was said to have been
the first brigadier general.

White was one of twenty-two al-
leged members of the Black Legion
indicted in Detroit several months
ago on charges of criminal syndi-
calism.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Dawsey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Starnes	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

McIntire

NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM

Forwarded by New York Office

DEC 21 1936

NOT RECORDED INDEXED

61-7597-147X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

14

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Cleveland, Ohio**

FILE NO. **62-3**

REPORT MADE AT Cleveland, Ohio	DATE WHEN MADE 12/30/36	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/30/36	REPORT MADE BY Clyde E. Smith
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TITLE BLACK LEGION; NIGHT RIDERS; BULLET CLUB	CHARACTER OF CASE MISCELLANEOUS - CONFIDENTIAL
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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: In accordance with instructions contained in letter of reference, further investigation to be carried on in case entitled, UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Dr. Z. T. Wirtschafter; Albert Phillips, Victims, EXTORTION; Bureau file No. 9-2242. Therefore, this case is being considered

REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated December 24, 1936, Bureau file No. 9-2242.

DETAILS: Pending investigative activity in this matter is, in accordance with suggestion contained in reference letter, to be carried on in case entitled, UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; Dr. Z. T. Wirtschafter; Albert Phillips - Victims, EXTORTION.

Therefore, this case is being considered

- C L O S E D -

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF THIS DATE

DECLASSIFIED BY **6080** ON **10-3-27**

PROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Cleveland		61-7398-148	JAN 5 1937
		JAN 4 - A.M.	JAN 8 - 1937
		ONE STAT. SECT	22

KRM:GJ

RECORDED

61-7398-149

January 12, 1937.

Mr. Paul E. Easton, Superintendent,
Lincoln County Schools,
Box 508,
North Platte, Nebraska.

Dear Mr. Easton:

In acknowledging your undated letter received here on January 4, 1937, I wish to advise you that this Bureau has no prepared pamphlets or other information with respect to the Black Legion.

Matters pertaining to the Black Legion do not come within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau, for which reason data of the type requested by you are not available.

I can only suggest that you might obtain the desired information from Mr. Fred W. Frahm, Superintendent of Police, Detroit, Michigan and Mr. Oscar G. Olander, Commissioner, Michigan State Police, East Lansing, Michigan.

The self-addressed, stamped envelope forwarded with your communication is being returned herewith.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Encl. #1020059

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
CC - Omaha
JAN 13 1937
C

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten initials]

County Sup't Office
Lincoln County
North Platte, Nebraska

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington D. C.

Dear Sirs:

Could you send immediately pamphlets
and substantial information concerning the
criminal disclosures of the workings of
the "Black Legion" in the United States at
large?

We would especially like to know the
exposures of this organization in the state
of Michigan.

If you could give us other references
or other places where information could be
procured we would appreciate it.

Yours Sincerely

P. E. Estrom

*C. Sup't. Lincoln County, Nebr.
To be used for Educational Purposes*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED.

*Returned
1/4/37
AR.*

*rec. 1/4/37
C. E. Estrom*

61-2398-149	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 4 1937 P. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

173

61-1398-150
Changed to
9-2242

Toledo Ohio
Jan, 19, 1937

Mr. J. E. Hoover

Chief U.S. Bureau of Investigation.

Dear Sir:-

I am submitting this letter to you for you to think deeply before you go to far in your investigation of this Legion of Americans, or as the papers call it the Black Legion, I am submitting with this letter to you, The Principles of this Legion of Americans as I understand it. I am also sending you The Bloody Oath of the Knights of Columbus, As printed from the Congressional Record, SIXTY SECOND CONGRESS, THIRD SESSION, (VOL. 49. No. 50. P. P. 3261-3262, February, 15, 1915.)

The above you will find printed on the Top of the Oath. I want you to compare the Oath you have of the LEGION OF AMERICANS or as call it The Black Legion, with the K. of C. Oath, and think in your own head which is the most dangerous to this Great Republic of The UNITED STATES AMERICA.

Every Protestant Organization that has ever been formed, has been broken by direct or indirect means by such unworthy people, you know it is the except some few Organizations such as MASONIC, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS AND THE OLD FELLOWS & a few others, & even now as you can see in their OATH, They against any thing that is PROTESTANT & all Protestant People wherever they may be. No Organization should be blamed for what some Criminals that members do, You take the Trouble that was in Detroit Mich, if you will not see I think you are, and you can Judge for yourself that they are just trying to break up another Protestant Organization, That had for its foundation Principles of Genuine Protestant American Citizens, That choose to keep Republic as it was founded. Now in Toledo Ohio, Lucas County. Who is at the instigator of the Investigation, Who is causing all this Trouble about Organization of Legion of Americans or as called the Black Legion, One unworthy of being called an American, Mr. Francis Murphy, I am asking you a general way to investigate Mr Francis Murphy and his League against We Paganism, It is Known that he was teaching Communism in the Recreation Park, the W.P.A. Drawing his Compensation from the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. According to my thoughts I do not think that him doing this is CONSTITUTIONAL.

I only hope that you will do all that is in your power for the Good of American People before it is too late. This man Mr. Lyman G. (Buck) Deane one of the most Patriotic Man in America to day, His Father was a Civil Veteran, He also has served in a Great American War, was also a Mounted Officer on the Pennsylvania Police Force, in Troop B. stationed at Wyom Also on the Mounted Force of the City of Toledo Ohio, This Man tried in every possible way to Reorganize this Legion in Ohio. He was Denoted and Disgraced for the Good he was trying to do the Organization, and now has to suffer trying to help all men and put the organization on a more firm American foundation, with all the Just principles that belong to all Free men as ordained by ALMIGHTY GOD THE GREAT SPIRIT of all mankind wherever they may be. I am telling you and all the rest of we Protestant People, show the Fact that he gets his Job back and in good standing, instead of he destroy his good Character and standing in this Community and the Republic. L.G. (Buck) Deane was loved by all who knew him, He never had a charge placed against him in all his 19 year as a Police Officer of Toledo. I only hope that you won't be led by the ALIEN Minded People who are against his Great American Principles.

Respectfully Yours

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

61-7548
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RECORDED

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